

Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation.

I urge you in the strongest possible terms to do your duty to the American people and take action to require that Sinclair provide an equal opportunity to John Kerry to present his viewpoint and refute any and all allegations in this one sided piece.

Sinclair claims that this event is "unscripted" and that the final format has yet to be decided upon. So close to an election of such critical importance, the likelihood that a corporate giant such as Sinclair would be REQUIRING it's affiliates to air this show without having a very clear idea of the content and view point of the program is absurd. Do not allow their lies to dissuade you from taking immediate action regarding this matter.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. But when large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for the bottom line and less of what we need for our democracy. Instead of something produced at "News Central" far away, it's more important that we see real people from our own communities and more substantive news about issues that matter.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard.